

personal and professional life that has taken him across the country and around the world. His myriad of experiences in the private sector and across the globe has made him such an innovative economic development expert and a valued contributor to me. Peter is kind and courteous to a fault. We would be hard pressed to find anyone who has met him who doesn't like him. He has a great capacity to put people at ease, and people just generally like to be around him, as evidenced by his multitude of friends and acquaintances. It is probably because the best friendship qualities run deep in Peter: He is loyal and can be tough when needs be, but he is also a cheerful encourager.

Peter has been a great asset to me, my staff and the Senate throughout his service to Idaho and the Nation, and I will miss him greatly. However, I wish my friend and his wife Kris great happiness throughout his retirement. I am hopeful that retirement will provide them more time to spend with their family, including their two children Katy and Paul, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, and three grandchildren. Peter's retirement is a well-deserved respite for his years of hard work for Idahoans and our country. Thank you, Peter, for your great service and extraordinary friendship.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BRICKLAYERS AND ALLIED CRAFT WORKERS LOCAL 04

• Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I recognize the 100th anniversary of the Bricklayers and Allied Craft Workers, BAC, Local 04 of South Dakota Local 04 has served the western region of South Dakota with a sterling dedication to the rights of its members. The Bricklayers and Allied Craft Workers is nationally recognized as the oldest continuous union serving both the United States and Canada. The Local 04 unites trowel trades craftworkers throughout West River South Dakota.

Throughout their existence, Local 04 has served the West River region of South Dakota with a steadfast commitment to its trade. Its membership has always been modest in size, today consisting of 72 members, yet the BAC is dedicated to protecting the working rights of its members. To date, Local 04 has negotiated fair wages, safe working conditions and retirement benefits.

I applaud Local 04 for its dedication to ensuring its members' rights and working towards a higher quality of life. I am honored to recognize this historic milestone of 100 years.●

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JEFFREY TALIAFERRO

• Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize

the work and military service of COL Jeffrey Taliaferro, who is concluding a 2-year stint as commander of the 28th Bomb Wing, Ellsworth Air Force Base. During the past 2 years, Colonel Taliaferro has commanded the largest B-1 combat wing in the U.S. Air Force and will now move on to the Pentagon as Chief, Combat Forces Division at Headquarters, USAF-A8PC.

Colonel Taliaferro's command tenure at Ellsworth Air Force Base is the latest in a long line of impressive assignments. He received his commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1989 and has served in a variety of flying and staff positions. His staff experience includes positions with U.S. Air Force headquarters, Office of the Secretary of Defense, and U.S. Central Command. He is a command pilot with over 2,400 flight hours in the B-1 and T-38.

During his 2 years at Ellsworth Air Force Base, a large number of base personnel have been deployed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Odyssey Dawn, as well as numerous other missions. During my years in Congress, I have always been impressed with the high degree of patriotism, expertise, commitment and dedication of the Ellsworth personnel and the base's leadership command. Those qualities have been continued in the great leadership of Colonel Taliaferro.

I have appreciated Colonel Taliaferro's work on a number of issues impacting Ellsworth Air Force Base and the Air Force in general. He has promoted and developed great relationships with the South Dakota congressional delegation and their staffs, with South Dakota State officials, Black Hills mayors and local officials, as well as the media and local citizens. He has worked to communicate the intricacies and details of a number of issues to officials and the general public, including the proposed expansion of the Powder River Training Complex, privatization of base housing to the local community, the status and effectiveness of the B-1 Lancer fleet, the status of the new MQ-9 mission at Ellsworth, and efforts to support deployed personnel and their families.

Colonel Taliaferro has provided oversight on a number of infrastructure changes at Ellsworth during his command and has continued to enhance the great relationship between Ellsworth Air Force Base and the local communities. Few bases enjoy such a friendly working relationship with local businesses and the general public as Ellsworth does with the Black Hills communities, and I commend Colonel Taliaferro for his ability to promote this relationship.

I have appreciated the insight and input from Colonel Taliaferro and his staff over the past 2 years. I have had the opportunity to visit the base on a number of occasions during Colonel Taliaferro's time at Ellsworth, and I appreciated his candor. He is a true pa-

triot and a tremendous asset to the U.S. Air Force. I commend Colonel Taliaferro for his service to Ellsworth Air Force Base and wish him, Ellie, and their family all the best in future endeavors.●

REMEMBERING BETTY HOLLANDER

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, on April 7, a pall passed over my hometown of Stamford, CT, when the news began to spread that Mrs. Betty Ruth Hollander, one of its leading citizens and a good friend of mine and my family, had passed away peacefully. A pioneer, entrepreneur, philanthropist, inventor, and a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, Mrs. Hollander lived a truly remarkable life that touched and inspired almost everyone she met. Her passing is a great loss not just for those of us who were lucky enough to know her personally, but for the entire Stamford community and well beyond.

In 1962, while raising four young children, Betty Hollander founded Omega Engineering out of her kitchen in Stamford. At a time when women faced pervasive discrimination in many industries, Betty utilized her steady work ethic and sharp business acumen to grow Omega from a firm focused on manufacturing a single line of thermocouples to a globally recognized business that produces over 100,000 state-of-the-art products for measurement and control.

Omega's record of success gave Betty the opportunity to serve on a number of corporate boards, including Target Corporation—then Dayton Hudson Corporation—Peoples United Bank and Southern New England Telephone. She was also deeply involved with many charities, and served on the boards of Yale New Haven Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital and St. Vincent Hospital, Bridgeport, CT, among many other corporations and nonprofit organizations.

Alongside all her success and busy schedule, Betty remained deeply committed to her family. Even when serving as corporate executive officer of Omega, when asked her occupation Mrs. Hollander would reply that she was "a wife and mother." Later, she was able to add "grandmother" to the title. These, she insisted, were the most important roles she ever played. In 1952, she married Milton Bernard Hollander, her best friend since high school, beginning a strong 58-year marriage characterized by extraordinary mutual devotion. Together, they had four children, Eva Lynn, Steven, Aaron, and Joel, and nine grandchildren.

To get a sense of the truly exemplary person that Betty Hollander was, all you need to do is look over an online forum set up to honor her memory. Already, over 100 individuals from all walks of life have taken the time to express their condolences and share their favorite memories of Betty. One longtime employee in Omega's shipping department remembers that, no matter

how busy she was as CEO, Betty would always take the time out to get to know all of her employees personally. Others fondly recalled how she was never too busy to mentor younger employees and helped inspire them to pursue their dreams and demonstrate their fullest potential. In addition, there are testimonials from those who worked with her on her charitable endeavors, those who were friends, and even those who had never met her, but who were inspired by her success in business and her service to the community. On a personal level, Betty Hollander and my mother were great friends—two great Jewish mothers—and I have always treasured having had the opportunity to know her.

If we are to be judged in life by the effect we have on others, than Betty Hollander's life was a sterling success!

We honor Betty Hollander's memory and cherish her decency and friendship. I extend my deepest sympathies to Betty's beloved "Miltie" Hollander and all of Betty's friends and family on their irreplaceable loss. They will be in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult period.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and two treaties which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on April 15, 2011, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1473. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) on April 15, 2011.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on April 18, 2011, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of

Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1308. An act to amend the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act to extend the termination date for the Commission, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) on April 29, 2011.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 34. Concurrent resolution establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2021.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d, clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. MANZULLO of Illinois, Chairman.

The message further announced that pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 194, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Coast Guard Academy: Mr. COBLE of North Carolina and Mr. COURTNEY of Connecticut.

The message also announced that pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 51312(b), and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Merchant Marine Academy: Mr. KING of New York and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. DRIER of California, Chairman, and Mr. MCCAUL of Texas.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2 of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715a) and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia and Mr. DINGELL of Michigan.

The message further announced that pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 431 note, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission: Mr. THORNBERRY

of Texas, Mr. SIMPSON of Idaho, and Mr. BOSWELL of Iowa.

The message also announced that pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 2302, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council: Mr. GRIMM of New York, Ms. HAYWORTH of New York, Mr. MEEHAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. WAXMAN of California, and Ms. GIFFORDS of Arizona.

The message further announced that pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 42-43), and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Mr. BECERRA of California.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2 of the Civil Rights Commission Amendments Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 1975 note), the order of the House of January 5, 2011, and upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader, Speaker reappoints the following members on the part of the House to the Commission on Civil Rights: Mr. Michael Yaki of San Francisco, California for a term expiring on December 15, 2016, and Mr. Todd Gaziano for a term expiring on December 15, 2013.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following concurrent resolution was discharged from the Committee on the Budget pursuant to Section 300 of the Congressional Budget Act, and placed on the calendar:

H. Con. Res. 34. Concurrent resolution establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2021.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 34. Concurrent resolution establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2021; to the Committee on the Budget.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following concurrent resolution was read, and placed on the calendar:

H. Con. Res. 34. Concurrent resolution establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2021.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated: